



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
550 S. VERMONT AVE., LOS ANGELES, CA 90020 HTTP://DMH.LACOUNTY.GOV



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July 18, 2016

Dear Prospective Proposer:

**ADDENDUM NO. 4 - TO ADD PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION MENTAL
HEALTH SERVICES FOR BLIND/VISUALLY IMPAIRED PERSONS IN THE REQUEST FOR
STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS
FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT MASTER AGREEMENT LIST
(BID #DMH111505B1)**

The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) is issuing Addendum No. 4 to the Request for Statements of Qualifications (RFSQ), for the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Master Agreement, Bid #DMH111505B1. This Addendum adds one distinct category, Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Mental Health Services for Blind/Visually Impaired Persons, to the RFSQ, as follows:

- i) **In 1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION, Section 1.1 Scope of Work, Subsection 1.1.3 Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Plan** is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

"1.1.3 The Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Plan:

The PEI Plan is intended to engage persons prior to the development of serious mental illness or serious emotional disturbance or, in the case of early intervention, alleviate the need for additional mental health treatment and/or transition to extended mental health treatment.

The priority populations are underserved cultural populations, individuals experiencing onset of serious psychiatric illness, children and youth in stressed families, trauma-exposed individuals, children and youth at risk for school failure, and children and youth at risk of or experiencing juvenile justice involvement.

Key community mental health needs that will be addressed are disparities in access to services; psycho-social impact of trauma; at-risk children, youth, and young adults; stigma and discrimination; and suicide risk.

Prevention in mental health involves reducing risk factors or stressors, building protective factors and skills, and increasing support. Prevention promotes positive cognitive, social and emotional development and encourages a state of well-being that allows that individual to function well in the face of changing and sometimes challenging circumstances.

Early Intervention is directed toward individuals and families for whom a short duration (usually less than one year) and relatively low-intensity intervention is appropriate to measurably improve a mental health problem or concern very early in its manifestation, thereby avoiding the need for more extensive mental health treatment or services or preventing a mental health problem from getting worse.

Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Mental Health Services for Blind/Visually Impaired Persons will expand access to mental health services for all age groups: Children and Youth (0-15), Transition-Age Youth (16-25), Adults (26-59), and Older Adults (60+). Access to preventative and early intervention mental health services for the blind and visually impaired population is in keeping with the Department of Mental Health (DMH) PEI plan to treat underserved populations who may be at-risk of developing more severe mental health symptoms due to a lack of mental health-focused resources designed specifically to meet the clinical needs of this population. These services are to be provided throughout Los Angeles County in all eight (8) DMH Service Areas (SAs). As such, DMH is looking for expertise in the provision of mental health services for blind and visually impaired individuals, including evidence based practices appropriate for use and adaptation for the needs of visually impaired individuals and listed in the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health PEI Evidence-Based Practices, Promising Practices, and Community-defined Evidence Practices Resource Guide 2.0, and approved for use by LA County DMH.

These services are expected to provide significant increases in the level of participation and involvement of clients and their family members in all aspects of the community mental health system and programs.”

- ii) **In 1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION, Section 1.3 Proposer’s Minimum Qualifications for the RFSQ, Subsection 1.3.1, the following category is added:**

“14. Prevention and Early Intervention Mental Health Services for Blind/Visually Impaired Persons

Proposers with experience in PEI Mental Health Services for Blind/Visually Impaired Persons must submit as part of their SOQ a program narrative not exceeding four (4) pages demonstrating that Proposer meets the following requirements:

- A. Proposer shall currently and for the past five (5) years have been providing services to the blind/visually impaired clients and their families.
- B. Proposer must be able to provide services to blind/visually impaired clients throughout Los Angeles County in all eight (8) DMH Service Areas (SA).
- C. Proposer must have demonstrated, for the past five (5) years, experience working with community partners (e.g., rehabilitation, education systems,

Department of Children and Family Services, Health Services, etc.) to decrease stigma associated with, and increase access to, specialty mental health services for the blind and visually impaired community.

- D. Proposers must demonstrate the capacity to design, support, and implement client-driven services for Blind/Visually Impaired Persons.
 - E. Proposers must demonstrate the ability to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services to the blind/visually impaired population.
 - F. Proposers must show evidence of including peer and family members, when appropriate, in assisting Blind/Visually Impaired Persons with access to support. (Inclusion of peers and family members involves ensuring that they have an opportunity to participate in the evaluation of services provided).
 - G. Proposers must have demonstrated experience using evidence-based practices to address the specialty mental health needs of a diverse age range of blind/visually impaired individuals, presenting with a range of mental health needs.
 - H. Proposers must have a demonstrated record of effective collaboration with community partners such as emergency shelters, self-help organizations, human services agencies, law enforcement agencies, legal assistance agencies, employment and job training services, housing providers, educational institutions, and the business community.”
- iii) Appendix I, Revision 3, MHSA SOQ Short Form, is deleted in its entirety and replaced with Appendix I, Revision 4, incorporating the following change:
- a) PEI Mental Health Services for Blind/Visually Impaired Persons is added as Service Category 20a.

The updated MHSA SOQ Short Form that includes the new category is attached. Prospective Contractors interested in adding the new service are requested to indicate their preferences for that service and submit the updated form, along with the required documentation as indicated in Section 1.3 Proposer’s Minimum Qualifications to:

**Stella Krikorian, Administrative Services Manager III
Contracts Development and Administration Division
Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
550 S. Vermont Ave., 5th Floor, Room 500
Los Angeles, CA 90020**

No response is required from agencies that are not interested in or do not qualify to provide this new service.

Please also note that agencies can update their previously submitted MHSA SOQ Short Form at any time. All details for RFSQ MHSA Bid #DMH111505B1 and forms are available at the link below:

http://lacdmh.lacounty.gov/ToolsForAdministrators/Agency_Administration/current_open_solicitations.html

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (213) 738-4023.

Sincerely,



Stella Krikorian, Administrative Services Manager III
Contracts Development and Administration Division

SK:RB:COH:lg

Attachment (1)

c: Robin Kay, Ph.D. (letter only)
Dennis Murata, M.S.W. (letter only)
Deputy Directors (letter only)
District Chiefs (letter only)
James Sokalski (letter only)
Stephanie Reagan (letter only)